

REMARKS

The Office Action of June 2, 2004 has been received, and the allowance of claims 15-19 has been noted with satisfaction.

Section 6 of the Office Action objects to claims 25 and 28 as depending from rejected base claims, but advises that they would be allowable if they are rewritten in independent form. Accordingly, the present Amendment cancels claims 24 and 25, and transfers their subject matter to claim 12. It is therefore respectfully submitted that claim 12 is now in condition for allowance. Rejected dependent claim 26 has been cancelled.

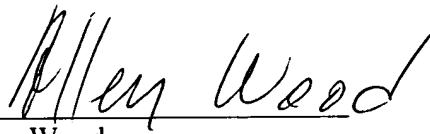
The present Amendment also cancels claims 27 and 28, and transfers their subject matter to claim 13. However, the language derived from claim 27 (now cancelled) has been modified during this transfer in order to avoid an antecedent basis problem. Since this modification improves the definiteness of claim 13 without raising any new issues of patentability, it is respectfully submitted that claim 13 is now in condition for allowance.

The present Amendment also revises claim 20 in order to conform it to the current formulation of claim 13.

Finally, the present Amendment cancels rejected dependent claim 29.

Since all the claims presently pending in this application are either allowed or allowable, or depend from allowable claims, it is respectfully submitted that the application is in condition for allowance. Reconsideration of the application is therefore respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Allen Wood". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above a horizontal line.

Allen Wood

Registration No. 28,134

Customer No. 23995

(202) 371-8976

(202) 408-0924 (facsimile)

AW:rw